

States of America to the Republic of Armenia.

#### FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Michael P. O'Rielly, of New York, to be a Member of the Federal Communications Commission for a term of five years from July 1, 2014.

#### LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION

Joseph Pius Pietrzyk, of Ohio, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Legal Services Corporation for a term expiring July 13, 2017.

Laurie I. Mikva, of Illinois, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Legal Services Corporation for a term expiring July 13, 2016.

Victor B. Maddox, of Kentucky, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Legal Services Corporation for a term expiring July 13, 2016.

#### MORRIS K. UDALL AND STEWART L. UDALL FOUNDATION

James L. Huffman, of Oregon, to be a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Foundation for a term expiring October 6, 2020.

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the action of the Senate with respect to discharging PN Nos. 2065, 1279, 1280, and 1916 from the HELP and EPW Committees be vitiated.

For the information of the Senate, these nominations were on the calendar on the privileged nominations list.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### ROSEKIND NOMINATION

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I support the nomination of Dr. Mark Rosekind to be the next administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, NHTSA.

Dr. Rosekind has served as a member of the National Traffic Safety Board, NTSB since 2009. His expertise is in developing countermeasures for fatigue in order to enhance vehicle safety. He also previously served at NASA for a number of years, and founded a technology company aimed at creating software that helps to reduce the role of fatigue in traffic incidents.

While I have some reservations about his somewhat limited management experience, given the size of the workforce he has been nominated to lead, I believe Dr. Rosekind's experience and expertise will enable him to approach this agency that many perceive to be in crisis with an eye toward making it more agile and technologically capable. I believe that NHTSA must have a leader who can hit the ground running, and Dr. Rosekind's extensive work in the safety area gives me confidence that he will be the right leader at this time.

As I stated at Dr. Rosekind's nomination hearing last week, the string of auto recalls this year has been cause for grave concern. We are on pace to have the all-time worst year for auto recalls in U.S. history, with about 60 million vehicles being subject to re-

calls so far. In many of these cases, there are legitimate questions about whether NHTSA should have identified the defective products earlier and communicated more effectively with the public.

Since the start of the year, I have called on President Obama to nominate a qualified individual to lead NHTSA without delay because inaction sends a terrible signal to the regulated community and the American people about automobile safety and oversight.

It took 343 days for President Obama to nominate a qualified individual to lead NHTSA, at a time when the Nation faced a year of record recalls, from the GM ignition switch recalls that began in February to the recalls involving defective Takata air bags. In fact, President Obama did not formally nominate Dr. Rosekind until the evening before the Commerce Committee was to hold a hearing regarding these defective Takata air bags.

By contrast, it has taken only 22 days for the Senate to receive the nomination, work through regular order at the Commerce Committee to hold a hearing and a markup for Dr. Rosekind's nomination, and today, to confirm his nomination by the full Senate. I believe the Senate's action today sends the clear signal that Senators on both sides of the aisle care very deeply about improving auto safety.

I look forward to working with Dr. Rosekind as NHTSA continues to work through the issues underlying the record number of recalls this year. I particularly look forward to learning the conclusions of the top-to-bottom review of NHTSA currently being conducted by the Obama administration, which Dr. Rosekind has promised to share publicly. Dr. Rosekind has a challenging road ahead of him, and the Commerce Committee will continue to pursue rigorous oversight of NHTSA for the foreseeable future, as well as possible solutions to better address some of the lapses that have occurred both at NHTSA and with certain auto manufacturers and parts suppliers.

I thank the Presiding Officer, and I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

#### NOMINATION OF COLETTE DODSON HONORABLE TO BE A MEMBER OF THE FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION—Continued

Mr. REID. Mr. President, we are doing our best to keep everyone advised. We have got a picture; we have made a lot of progress. But in the meantime, my favorite words: I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 618; that the nomination be confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order to the nomination; and that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The nomination considered and confirmed is as follows:

#### DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

James Cole, Jr., of New York, to be General Counsel, Department of Education.

#### NOMINATION OF COLETTE DODSON HONORABLE TO BE A MEMBER OF THE FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION—Continued

#### ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the cloture motions with respect to the following nominations be withdrawn: Calendar Nos. 840, Lopez; 922, Jadotte; 901, Stivers; 735, Cruden; and 553, Smith; further, that all postcloture time on the Honorable nomination be considered expired and the Senate proceed to vote on confirmation of the Honorable nomination; that upon disposition of the Honorable nomination, the Senate proceed to confirmation votes on the following nominations: Calendar Nos. 840, Lopez; 922, Jadotte; 901, Stivers; 735, Cruden; 553, Smith; further, that if any nomination is confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order to the nomination; that any statements related to the nomination be printed in the RECORD; and that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### VOTE ON HONORABLE NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. All time on the Honorable nomination has expired.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Colette Dodson Honorable, of Arkansas, to be a Member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission?

The nomination was confirmed.